

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Featured Physician – Ana M. Mercado, DMD, PhD
- Newborn Screening for Cystic Fibrosis
- Project ECHO Offerings
- And more!



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NEWS YOU CAN USE

Toledo Health Systems Partner to Improve Housing in Lucas County

Nationwide Children's - Toledo, Mercy Health and ProMedica are partnering to address the social, economic and environmental factors that impact the health of children and families in the Toledo community. Each system has invested in social determinants of health individually but during recent months agreed to work together to have a stronger impact on addressing these critical issues that affect childhood and overall community health. Collaborating with community organizations, these local hospital systems will improve housing affordability and quality, support lead remediation and reduce lead exposure for families in northwest Ohio.

As part of this collaboration, Nationwide Children's - Toledo will work with Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity (MVHFH) to rehabilitate 53 owner-occupied residential housing units in Lucas County as part of MVHFH's Home Preservation programs. For more information, visit NationwideChildrens.org/newsroom.

Maintenance of Certification

Thank you to all who submitted for 2023 Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part 4 Credit. It's time to start thinking about your 2024 projects. Deadlines and applications will be released soon on the ANCHOR MOC page. If you have questions, email MOC@NationwideChildrens.org.

COMMUNITY PROVIDER CORNER

Flovent Discontinuation Announcement

The producers of brand name Flovent® HFA (fluticasone propionate) and Flovent® Diskus® (fluticasone propionate inhalation powder) have announced that effective January 1, 2024, these products will be discontinued. This is a commonly prescribed inhaled corticosteroid medication, often used in the treatment of asthma. The authorized generics, fluticasone propionate HFA (generic for Flovent® HFA) and fluticasone propionate diskus (generic for Flovent® Diskus®) are now available.

According to the FDA, an authorized generic is an approved brand name drug that is marketed without the brand name on its label. Other than the fact that it does not have the brand name on its label, it is the exact same drug product as the branded product. Pharmacies can substitute the generic



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without an updated or new prescription if refills remain on the original Flovent® prescription. Prior to refill, patients should check with their insurance to determine if they cover the generic medication, or if they prefer a different inhaled medication.

Newborn Screening for Cystic Fibrosis

Did you know that missed and delayed cystic fibrosis (CF) diagnosis still happens in Ohio?

Diagnosis and treatment of CF have dramatically improved over the past 20 years with the introduction of newborn screening (NBS) and CFTR modulator therapy. Despite this, there are still infants with an abnormal screening for CF who do not get the recommended sweat chloride testing within 30 days of life. This can lead to missed or delayed diagnosis.

New CF medicines can be started as young as 30 days.

Depending on the gene mutations, some CFTR modulators can be started very early. These modulators are life-changing for patients and dramatically improve outcomes, especially the earlier they are started. Early diagnosis matters.

Help to identify all infants with CF.

The Abnormal CF Newborn Screen Response Team is here to help provide clear communication of NBS results to families and to help schedule sweat chloride testing. CF NBS results can be confusing for both patients and primary care teams. Many barriers exist contributing to delays in diagnostic testing. We can help interpret screening results and coordinate follow-up testing as indicated.

NBS for CF will miss 5-10% of infants with CF.

Please remember that newborn screening does not rule out a diagnosis of CF. Newborn screening is a great tool, but as with any screening test, it is not perfect. If there are any concerns a patient has CF, a sweat test and evaluation by an accredited CF center should be arranged *even if the patient had a normal newborn screening for CF*.



Interested in learning more?

Plan to attend “Cystic Fibrosis Newborn Screening in Ohio: Need to Know Information for the Primary Care Provider” on May 9, 2024, from 12 to 1 p.m. for more information about practical and useful updates in

interpreting and following up on abnormal NBS for CF.

Questions about an abnormal CF Newborn screen?

Contact the CF NBS team at CFNewbornScreen@NationwideChildrens.org.

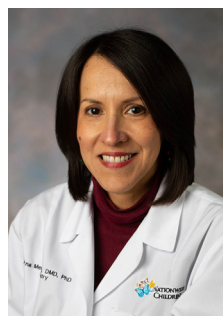
Register Now: Project ECHO Q1 Offerings

Project ECHO is a collaborative, tele-mentoring program designed to bring together subject matter experts and community providers in an “all teach, all learn” environment. ECHO creates ongoing learning communities where community-based providers from a variety of disciplines receive support and develop the skills they need to diagnose and treat pediatric patients. Designed to help move knowledge, not patients, through case discussions and didactic presentations, Nationwide Children’s Hospital offers ECHO groups across a range of topics, including behavioral health, constipation, pediatric pain, telehealth autism assessment, Tourette syndrome and tic disorders and cerebral palsy. Register now for ECHO’s in first quarter of 2024 at NationwideChildrens.org/ECHO.

ADHD Academy

Do you know a child with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)? Are you wondering if there are any strategies to help with managing a patient with ADHD? The ADHD Academy through Nationwide Children’s is just what you need. These programs can be an invaluable resource for anyone feeling lost on how to treat someone with ADHD. The ADHD Academy is a series of programs designed for parents, teachers, providers and others who care for a child (or children) with ADHD. The series runs from October to June each year. These classes are held for a couple of hours in the evenings to allow working individuals to attend. All the instructors for the ADHD Academy are members of our Behavioral Health team at Nationwide Children’s. They are well-versed in the characteristics of ADHD and will offer useful strategies and different approaches to help the patient with ADHD. These classes are designed with your patient families in mind and are a wonderful opportunity to learn about ADHD and how you can help children be more successful.

FEATURED PHYSICIAN



Ana M. Mercado, DMD, PhD, is a craniofacial orthodontist in the Nationwide Children’s Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Clinic and a clinical associate professor of Orthodontics at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry. She received her dental degree from the University of Puerto Rico. Her general practice residency and oral biology master’s degree are from The Ohio State University. She completed the dentist-scientist program from the National Institutes of Health, which awarded her a specialty degree in orthodontics and a PhD at The Ohio State University. Her research interests include the oral hygiene behaviors in

adolescents with cleft lip/palate, secondary alveolar bone grafting, and jaw orthopedics using bone-anchored therapy.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY

- In 1978, Columbus Childrens Hospital (now Nationwide Children's) had a medical staff of 443 physicians, with very few serving full-time in the hospital.
- In 2022, Nationwide Children's had 1,453 physicians and 592 nurse practitioners on medical staff.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Physician Recognition

Medical staff leadership would like to acknowledge physicians for recently receiving positive comments from patients and families. These comments are only a brief sample of the many compliments our physicians receive regularly.

Gail E. Besner, MD, Chief, General Pediatric Surgery

"Dr. Besner was fabulous. She explained everything before and after the surgery in a clear, concise way. She was very personable and kind. Dr. Besner was able to put our minds at ease. She did a phenomenal job from our first to last interaction. I am so thankful to have had her as our surgeon. As a parent and physician, myself, I would recommend her as a surgeon to everyone. From start to finish, our experience was stellar and far beyond expectations. The staff, nurses and physicians made sure that we were kept informed and updated. The whole team was able to make the entire experience seamless."

Ritika Gupta, MD, Pediatrics

"This was likely the best experience I have had with a doctor in a very long time. Dr. Gupta was understanding and helpful. I brought my child to urgent care because our after-hours center with our primary care doctor didn't have available appointments. I will likely continue to bring my children here instead. The level of care was not something I had been used to. Kudos to both the doctor and the nurse on staff that night - they both did a great job."

Ana M. Mercado, DMD, PhD, Dentistry

"Cannot say enough about Dr. Mercado and her team. They are professional, friendly, and caring and treat my granddaughter who has special needs with the utmost respect. Absolutely would and have recommended Dr. Mercado."

Jeffrey Papiernik, MD, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine and Laura Puertas Ocio, MD, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine

"I loved how thoughtful the physicians were in response to our questions. We felt well-informed and confident in their

expertise and care. I loved that the entire team worked together harmoniously. You never picked up on anyone being stressed or overworked which is rare in my opinion. I wish all hospitals were like Nationwide Children's. We've been to several children's hospitals over the years and there isn't one that comes close to exceptional as Nationwide Children's."

Benjamin Prince, MD, Pediatrics

"Dr. Prince is one of the best doctors I have dealt with in my life, especially regarding my child. He understands and appreciates that I want to know all that I can without being overloaded. He's willing to answer all questions, makes both my son and I feel extremely comfortable, and is willing to thoroughly explain everything. I have referred others and will continue to because I honestly believe he is the best! I am so extremely grateful for Dr. Prince!"

Betsy Schmerler, MD, Pediatrics and Reid Chambers, DO, Orthopedics

"We had such a good experience at Nationwide Children's. Something terrible happened, and my daughter got hurt- but I left with an overwhelming feeling of gratitude for the quality, child-centered care that my daughter received. Every single person involved in her care took amazing care of her, and I feel so thankful for access to an amazing children's hospital with amazing staff. Thank you for making a really difficult time a little bit easier."

HEMOCARE UPDATE

Homecare 2024 Updates for Providers

Homecare has several services that have increased the number of counties they cover. Per announcements in 2023, Homecare Medical Equipment delivers home medical equipment and supplies to all of Ohio's 88 counties. The only exclusion is bili-blankets, which are currently only available in Homecare's primary nine-county service area due to regulations. HME will be trialing new ways of providing bili-blankets to all 88 counties and will continue to update providers on accessibility.

In 2023, Therapy Services expanded from providing services in only Franklin County to include Delaware County. This year, Homecare's Therapy Services are also available in Fairfield County.

Intermittent Skilled Nursing has begun accepting referrals for patients living in Knox and Muskingum counties in addition to their original nine-county service area.

We have received requests from community providers for an easily accessible general Nationwide Children's Homecare referral form, which is now online. The "Professionals" page also includes payor listings, a service area map and specifics on referrals to Asthma Express. For details, go to

[NationwideChildrens.org/specialties/homecare/for-professionals](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/specialties/homecare/for-professionals).

For questions regarding referral processes or any Nationwide Children's Homecare services or programs, email **Carolyn.Figi@NationwideChildrens.org**.

INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

2024 Ohio EMS for Children Conference

March 1, 2024

Children have unique needs requiring specialized emergency care. The keynote speaker, Joseph Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP, chief health equity officer for the American Academy of Pediatrics, will discuss how health equity and disparities impact pediatric emergency care. Additional subject matter experts will explore how best to provide high-quality emergency care for children. There will be an Ohio EMSC Clinical Saves Award Program, with afternoon breakout sessions. Register now at [NationwideChildrens.cloud-cme.com/2024OHEMSC](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/cloud-cme.com/2024OHEMSC).

2024 Kidney and Urinary Tract Center Symposium

March 13, 2024, 5-7 p.m., Discovery Auditorium – Opening Address

March 14, 2024, 7 a.m.-5 p.m., Nationwide Children's Conference Center - State-of-the-art in Congenital Obstructive Uropathy

The overall goal of this symposium is to provide a current, high-level summary of the mechanisms and management of congenital obstructive uropathy due to bladder outlet obstruction, highlighting knowledge gaps and making recommendations about next steps for research to guide the care of patients at all phases of their disease course. Register now at <https://tinyurl.com/2s3zvttn>.

2024 Pediatric Otolaryngology Research Symposium

April 17, 2024

The 2024 Pediatric Otolaryngology Research Symposium will present clinical updates and research discoveries for the otolaryngologic care of children. This one-day meeting will include expert panels, multidisciplinary discussions and strategies to improve quality of care. Register now at [NationwideChildrens.cloud-cme.com/ENT24](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/cloud-cme.com/ENT24).

2024 Annual Pediatric Infectious Diseases Conference

April 19, 2024

The 41st Annual Dwight A. Powell Pediatric Infectious Diseases Conference in conjunction with the 39th Annual Pediatric Infectious Diseases Nursing Conference, will present material covering a variety of infectious diseases seen in the pediatric population as encountered by various primary care professionals. Register now at [NationwideChildrens.cloud-cme.com/ID2024](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/cloud-cme.com/ID2024).

14th Annual Pediatric Asthma Conference

May 3, 2024

This conference will highlight emerging information and practical advice regarding asthma management for providers of asthma patients across all levels of care. This conference is designed for pediatricians, family practitioners, nurses, respiratory therapists, social workers, pharmacists and clinical staff from hospital, urgent care, primary care and school facilities with students/patients who have asthma and allergies. For more information, visit [NationwideChildrens.cloud-cme.com/asthma2024](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/cloud-cme.com/asthma2024).

2nd Global Symposium of Research Methodology Innovation in Trauma and Emergency Care

May 22-23, 2024

The overarching goal of the 2nd Global Symposium of Research Methodology Innovation in Trauma and Emergency Care is to share innovative ideas, new research methodologies, and emerging technologies that address gaps in trauma and emergency care research. Experts in trauma care, emergency medicine, and research recognize the need for innovative approaches, rigorous scientific methods, and strong implementation science to ensure robust study design, sound statistical approaches, unbiased reporting of results, and effective translational efforts to disseminate research findings into medical care in real-world settings. For more information or to register, go to [NationwideChildrens.cloud-cme.com/TEC24](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/cloud-cme.com/TEC24).

Additional Conferences

To learn more or register for an upcoming conference, visit [NationwideChildrens.cloud-cme.com](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/education/continuing-medical-education). For information on event and conference planning support, email IPEoffice@NationwideChildrens.org.

- April 2-3, 2024, Center for Child Health Equity and Outcomes Research's Communities Aiming to Reach Equity Summit (CCHEOR C.A.R.E.S): Standing Against Structural Racism
- May 14-16, 2024, Neonatal/Fetal Conference: From the Womb and Beyond
- July 19-21, 2024, Clinical and Scientific Advances in Urinary Tract Infections Conference
- August 21-23, 2024, 2nd Annual Robotic Surgery for Pediatric Surgeons Conference
- September 27, 2024, Sickle Cell Trait and Disease in 2024: Primer for the Primary Care Provider
- October 3-4, 2024, Multidisciplinary Early Recovery After Pediatric Cardiac Surgery (MERCURY) Meeting
- October 11, 2024, 2nd Annual Cardiology Symposium
- November 7-9, 2024, Integrated Diagnostics and Targeted Therapies in Pediatric Oncology Symposium
- November 15, 2024, Pediatric Sports Medicine and Orthopedics Conference

GRAND ROUNDS

Pediatric Grand Rounds

Pediatric Grand Rounds takes place every Thursday from 8 to 9 a.m. A schedule of upcoming and prior recorded sessions is on the Nationwide Children's Physician Connect app and the hospital intranet (ANCHOR) calendar. Learn more about Pediatric Grand Rounds at bit.ly/PediatricGrandRounds.

Upcoming sessions include:

Date	Topic	Speaker and Institution/ Department
1/11/24	Menstrual Health Inequity in the United States	Shelby Davies, MD Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
1/18/24	Using Implementation Science to Advance Contraception Access Within the Behavioral Health Pavilion	Elise Berlan, MD, Sam Dudley III, MD, Samantha Herrmann, PA, and Anna Kerlek, MD Nationwide Children's Hospital
1/25/24	New Advances for Children With Brain Cancer	Maryam Fouladi, MD Nationwide Children's Hospital
2/1/24	Personalized Immune Care in Pediatric Critical Illness	Mark Hall, MD, FAAP, FCCM Nationwide Children's Hospital
2/8/24	Keep Your Heart with All Diligence: Cardiac Implications of Lung Disease, Pulmonary Hypertension and Conditions Leading to Pediatric Heart Failure	Oliver Aregullin, MD, FAAP, FSCAI, FABIM Helen DeVos Children's Hospital
2/15/24	Perinatal Marijuana Exposure and Considerations	Rakhi Gupta Basuray, MD Nationwide Children's Hospital

Lounge and Learn

The Medical Staff Office is pleased to welcome you to the upcoming Lounge and Learn sessions on the second Friday of every month at 7:30 a.m. via Webex. If you have questions or would like to receive session invitations, email **Bruce.Meyer@NationwideChildrens.org** or **Rhonda.Burk@NationwideChildrens.org** or call our office to leave a message at (614) 722-4550.

Upcoming virtual sessions:

January 12 – Rob Honegger, MD, Hepatitis C Update
February 9 – James MacDonald, MD, Exercise Prescriptions
March 8 – Mahmoud Kallash, MD, Hypertension Update
April 12 – Laura Rust, MD, Future Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Practicing Clinicians

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Behavioral Health Learning Library

The Behavioral Health Learning Library (BHLL) is a collection of free, interactive and on-demand courses for professionals. The courses teach evidence-based pediatric mental and behavioral health assessment and treatment that is specifically tailored for different professional practices, like nursing, social work, psychology, pharmacy and more. The courses can even be used for continuing education credits. Through relevant and meaningful curricula, BHLL strives to ensure all children are able to access timely and effective mental and behavioral health treatment. Learn more at **NationwideChildrens.org/BH-Learning-Library**. For questions, contact **BHEducation@NationwideChildrens.org**.

The Pam & Jack Beeler Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Grand Rounds

Join upcoming virtual sessions via the listed Zoom link from noon to 1 p.m.

January 18 - Will Leever, PsyD, Increasing Access to Care Using Low Intensity Interventions **<https://zoom.us/j/96995153178>**

February 15 - Griffin Stout, MD and Heather Thobe, LPCC-S, MPH, Eating Disorders **<https://zoom.us/j/93705986731>**

Visit **NationwideChildrens.org/MedStat** for additional information regarding many of these articles.

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